

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 13 to 15 contiguous amino acids.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 14 contiguous amino acids.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein said chain of 14 contiguous amino acids are chosen from the group consisting of the contiguous amino acid sequences

QRETPEGAEAKPWY and PKDTPEGAEELKPWY.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said peptide is circularized.

7. (Amended) A method according to claim 6, wherein said peptide is circularized by replacing the NH₂- and COOH-terminal amino acids by cysteine so that a disulfide bridge is formed between the latter cysteines.

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said circularized peptides are chosen from the group consisting of the circularized peptides CGQRETPEGAEAKPWYC and CGPKDTPEGAEELKPWYC.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said oedema is

pulmonary oedema.

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10. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating oedema comprising a chain of 7 to 17 contiguous amino acids derived from the region of human TNF- α from Ser¹⁰⁰ to Glu¹¹⁶ or from the region of mouse TNF- α from Ser⁹⁹ to Glu¹¹⁵ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

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Add the following claims:

--11. (new) A composition according to claim 10, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 11 to 16 contiguous amino acids.

12. (new) A composition according to claim 10, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 13 to 15 contiguous amino acids.

13. (new) A composition according to claim 12, wherein said peptide comprises a chain of 14 contiguous amino acids.

14. (new) A composition according to claim 13, wherein said chain of 14 contiguous amino acids are chosen from the group consisting of the contiguous amino acid sequences

QRETPEGAEAKPWY and PKDTPEGAEELKPWY.

15. (new) A composition according to claim 10, wherein said peptide is

circularized.

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16. (new) A composition according to claim 15, wherein said peptide is circularized by replacing the NH₂- and COOH-terminal amino acids by cysteine so that a disulfide bridge is formed between the latter cysteines.

17. (new) A composition according to claim 16, wherein said circularized peptides are chosen from the group consisting of the circularized peptides CGQRETPEGAEAKPWYC and CGPKDTPEGAEELKPWYC.

18. (new) A composition according to claim 10, wherein said oedema is pulmonary oedema.

19. (new) A method of treating oedema comprising administering a composition of claim 10 to a person in need of said treatment.

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20. (new) A method of inducing oedema resorption comprising administering a composition of claims 10 to a person suffering from oedema.--